

F.C.R.S.A. National Speciality May – June 2009
Sweepstakes Report by Sarah Whittaker

What a great honour to be invited to judge this prestigious event, I can not thank the F.C.R.S.A. enough for a super week at an outstanding venue. I had been a “ringside judge” for a few days of the Speciality in 2000 in Kentucky and was pleasantly surprised at the overall improvement of the quality of the dogs. As with any breeding programme to improve blood stock, it is an ongoing project. But I felt there was a good nucleus of quality dogs to be used in future breeding. Particular care has to be taken with the heads and the eye colour. I do appreciate seeing a nicely moulded head, with no abrupt stops.

As I mentioned at the Awards Banquet I expect to see a flatcoat happy and bright in the ring, even in your standard the flatcoat is described as “...cheerful...”, “... happy and outgoing attitude characterized by a wagging tail...” unfortunately this was not what I always saw when dogs on a hot day were being “stacked”, some then resembling rocking horses, but then to have the tail down between their legs is a very sad sight, which was in some cases quickly turned around with the use of a loose lead and letting the dog go into it’s own stand. Remember, the standard does say “... standing naturally is more important than judging him posed...” and this is what I tried to do, even if it did infuriate some exhibitors!

The Veteran Sweepstakes

Veteran Sweepstakes Dogs – 7 and under 9 years

1st Brenda Griffin & Andrea Holsinger’s **Ch Spectra’s Turn Back Time CD,RAE,AX,NAJ,NF** (Twin Oak’s Spring Formal x Ch Bertschire’s One Last Lick CD SH)

This dog is of correct size and has a beautiful typical head, with pleasing eye colour and placement. He has an excellent front with a good depth of chest and a superb topline and correct tailset, although he is prone to carrying this a little too proudly. Good quality bone and nice feet. He moved very soundly.

2nd Nikki Runyan & Sijkje Winter’s **Ch Flatcastle’s Happy Hour** (Serilde Velenocelestiala x Serilde Rosatea)

Overall this is a very nicely balanced and typical dog, who was on the day let down by his movement. He has a nicely moulded head with a kind eye, good colour and shape. Excellent well defined brisket. Good turn of stifle. Superb coat.

3rd Lori A Barrell Baycar & Raymond Baycar’s **Ch Quillquest Harbor Haze CD, RN** (Ch Quillquest Quillseeker x Ch Quillquest Xuberance CDX JH)

Pleasing overall type, with a good head and eye colour, shape and placement. Well defined brisket, good topline and a nice turn of stifle.

4th Neal Goodwin’s **Ch. Coastalight Wayward Wind** (Windstock Tango x Grousemoor Coastalight Dream)

This is a nicely balanced dog with excellent bone. He has a lovely head with a good length of muzzle, but I would have preferred a darker eye.

Veteran Sweepstakes Dogs – 9 and under 11 years

1st & Best Veteran Roger M Preston's **Ch Hawknest's Eros of Windtree** (Ch Grousemoor Highflying Pete CD SH x Ch Rainbow's Hawknest Treasure CD JH)

This is a very stylish eye catching dog, who flows effortlessly around the ring. He has the beautifully moulded one piece head, with excellent eye colour, shape and placement. He has a good front with correct reach of upper arm. Excellent feet. Correct level topline and tailset. Good turn of stifle and strong hindquarters.

2nd Sharon D McLean's **Ch Quillquest Etched in Stone QA AXJ JH** (Ch Agrebro's Hunter CD OA OAJ x Ch Quillquest Phen's Born to Win CD JH)

This was a superbly presented dog who is very workmanlike with an excellent topline and tail set. He has good quality bone and feet. Pleasing head and correct eye colour and shape.

3rd Nikki Runyan's **Ch Riverly Rocket to the Sky CD JH** (Ch Riverly The Sky's The Limit JH x Ch Foxvues Funny Girl)

This dog has a pleasing head, with a good depth of chest and well defined prow. He has a good topline, tail set and carriage, with correct cat like feet.

4th Lynn K Starr's **Ch Starr's Silent Night CD RN NAJ NAP NJP** (Ch Shargleam Winter Shades x Ch Starr's South In Dixie)

This is a very typical workmanlike dog of correct size and balance. He has a well constructed front with a good deep chest.

Veteran Sweepstakes Dogs – 11 years and over

How wonderful to see five dogs in this class.

1st Micheline Hebert Boistoli & Robert Boistoli's **Fieldday Blackcomb** (Ch Blackfriar Sun Devil Lucas x Ch Rivertown Dazzling Dayna)

This dog moved so well, especially on a hot day and for an eleven year old – he could still teach some of the youngsters something about movement! He is of the correct size and balance, with a pleasing front and good depth of chest.

2nd Jane M Brumley, Marion Butsavage & Angela Lloyd's **Ch Darktarn Neptune's Raven** (Ch Quillquest Quill Seeker x Ch Darktarn Sweet Victory)

This dog was beautifully presented, with a superb front and correct angulation. He has a pleasing head and good reach of neck into a nice deep brisket.

3rd Joyce Stewart's **Ch Victory's Bird in the Hand CD SH** (Ch Foxvue's Barque Drifter Bear CDX x Ch Hy-Tymes Even Keel UDT SH AX)

This dog is of correct size with the most wonderful hind movement. He has a nice head and good eye colour, shape and placement.

4th Ingrid H Sarelius' **Braidwyn Highland Bard** (Ch Braidwyn Bonnie Lad x Braidwyn Briony)

This was the "star of the day", being 13 years of age and having overcome torsion only 6 weeks previously. He put his "all" into his performance which was truly amazing. He had a beautiful head with a good front.

Veteran Sweepstakes Bitches – 7 and under 9 years

This class had some very high quality girls, of which some went away without a card.
1st & BOS Veteran Deborah A Edwards & Carrie Ryberg's **Ch Beachcliff Celine Dion** (Ch Rainbow's Autumn Classic x Ch Beachcliff's Demi Wants Moore)

This bitch is of the correct size and typifies "raciness without weediness". Unfortunately, she was not in her best coat, but has a superb flowing and balanced outline. She has a beautiful typical head, with good eye colour, shape and placement. Good reach of neck into a well defined brisket, super top line and tail set. Her strong hindquarters and good rear movement helped her to win the class and BOS.

2nd Helen Szostak's **Ch Tavion Fly Away Home** (Ch Flatford Fare Foreward CD x Ch Grousemoor Mischievious Trick CDX JH OA)

This is another beautifully balanced bitch, with a pleasing head and kind eye expression. Good depth of chest, with the desired width, correct top line and tail set, strong hindquarters with a nice turn of stifle, she really covered the ground on the move.

3rd Colleen Calahan, Marijo Nootz & Linda Calahan's **Ch Endeavor A Street Car Name Desire** (Ch Brandybuck Flash Crossraguel JH x Ch Echoic Indiscretion CDX JH NA NAJ)

This is a very typey workmanlike bitch, with a good level top line and correct tail set. Superb turn of stifle.

4th Diane Cornell Camardello's **Ch Blacnflat Irish Killarney** (Ch Shargleam Winter Shades x Ch Light-Foot's You Can't Top Her NA)

This is another very typey bitch of correct size, well angulated front and rear, with a pleasing head and eye.

Veteran Sweepstakes Bitches – 9 and under 11 years

This was an exceptionally high quality class where I needed more prize cards!

1st Lori Nicolosi's **Ch Hawknest Escapade** (Ch Grousemoor Highflying Pete SH x Ch Rainbow's Hawknest Treasure CD)

Superbly presented bitch of correct size and substance, with a beautifully moulded head, good reach of neck, into a pleasing lay of shoulder, nice turn of stifle. Good top line, tail set and carriage.

Interestingly, I see that I gave her brother his class as well – congratulations to the breeder.

2nd Karen F Peterson's **Ch Artic Sun's Hot Tamale Baby UD MH MX MXJ** (Ch W & W Double Jeopardy x Ch Artic Sun's Talk of The Town)

This is a very workmanlike, showy girl enjoying her day out, with good balance throughout and angulation. She has a pleasing head and a good reach of neck. Correct top line and tail set.

3rd Gillian Impey's **Ch Quillquest Dinamite JH** (Ch Agrebo's Hunter CD x Ch Quillquest Phen's Born to Win JH CD)

This is another classical bitch, with good angulation front and rear. Excellent cat like feet. She has a beautiful head with a kind eye expression and good colour.

4th Gwenyth Jones & Andrew Leinoff's **Quillquest Caramba at Blackgamin RN** (Blackgamin Faust x Quillquest's Salute to Chrys)

This is a very racy workmanlike bitch, putting her all into her day out. She has a pleasing head with the correct eye colour and expression.

Veteran Sweepstakes Bitches – 11 years and over

What a shame half this class were absent, but so pleased that the others made it on a hot day.

1st Barb & Fred Anderson's **Ch Tag Along on Lani KAI UD JH AX AXJ** (Ch Wizardwood Pretender x Ch Raveneaux's Quick as a Wink CD JH)

This is an absolutely beautiful bitch, not showing her 11 years. She has super overall type and balance, with an excellent head, good reach of neck, correct feet. Pleasing turn of stifle.

2nd Gyneth McClellan's **Ch Light-foot Canberra** (Ch Shargleam Winter Shades x Ch Light-foot Cassiopeia Ebony CD)

She has a nice head with correct eye colour and shape, good reach of neck into a well laid shoulder and depth of chest.

3rd M Renee Decker's **Ch Blazin's Brightest Star** (Ch Snowdown Canis Major CD x Lyric Queen of The Mountain CD)

The "grand lady of the day" - how wonderful to see a 14 year old at the show, putting her "best foot" forward with a star performance.

The Puppy Sweepstakes

Puppy Sweepstakes Dogs 6 months and under 9 months

This was a difficult class to judge as all the puppies were at very different stages of development.

1st Debra and Sarah Brown's **Artic Sun Winds of Change** (Ch Grousemoor Double Trouble JH x Artic Sun's Cold Duck)

This dog was beautifully handled and presented. He is a very stylish boy, with a nicely moulded head. He is well angulated in the front with a good depth of chest and has a strong rear, with a pleasing turn of stifle. Shows great promise for the future.

2nd Linda Mendrala & Cheryl Kistner's **Flat-tyres Wh-yistle Blow** (Ch Comics Catman Dooley JH x Witch-Hunts Lilla Selma)

Unfortunately this boy let himself down and needs some time and practice in the ring to do himself justice. However, he has a nice head and good reach of neck, into a nice front and well defined brisket. He has the correct top line, tail set and carriage.

3rd Jill MacLaurin's **Knightcastle Two Swords** (Ch Swallowsflight Excalibur's Enigma TDI x Knightcastle Spyderys from Moun)

This is a dog that will need a lot of time to mature before he does himself full justice in the ring. He was the best mover in the class. He has a good strong rear and nice turn of stifle with excellent feet.

4th William A & Shirley A Short's **Artic Sun Time Changes William Turner** (Ch Grousemoor Double Trouble JH x Artic Sun's Cold Duck)

This is a boy who has all the essentials that I was looking for, but just needs time and practice. He is of correct size and excellent bone.

Puppy Sweepstakes Dogs 9 months and under 12 months

1st Susan, Samantha & Daniel Stilwell's **Breezy Hill Sea Quell** (Ch Beachcliff Alec The Shadow Baldwin CD JH OA NA x Ch Petersefields Blue Andi)

This dog is of super overall type, excellent balance and bone. Correct cat like feet. Pleasing head with a good reach of neck, nice level top line and tail set and carriage. Excellent eye colour, shape, placement and expression. Won the class on his outstanding sound movement.

2nd Judith Terchek & Dawn Buttion's **Four Corners Bow and Arrow** (Ch Evening Star's Aries Bounty x Ch Salasana Silver Arrow)

This dog has a lovely typical head, but I hope his eye will darken with time. He has a good reach of neck into a well laid shoulder. His strong hindquarters allowed him to move with drive. This was the nicest liver puppy I saw at the show.

3rd Susan Ware's **Stormwatch Edge of the Cloud** (Ch Vbos The Kentuckian x Ch Rowansgaard During Wind N Rain SH)

This dog has an excellent typical head with a good reach of neck. He has good quality bone and a nice turn of stifle. He needs time to mature, which is certainly not a fault at his tender age.

4th Wayne Heike, Michelle Burrows & Traci Spires' **Shannara's Ain't That a Shame** (Ch Flat Castle's Olympic Torch x Shannara's Lady Justitia)

He has a lovely head, excellent neck leading into a good front. Good cat like feet. He again needs time and practice to do himself justice.

Puppy Sweepstakes Dogs 12 months and under 15 months

1st & BOS Dale McElrath & Kim Yates' **Banquo's Hellz Bellz** (Ch Dare's Quillquest Moonshadow x Ch Banquo's Memphis Belle)

This is a very stylish boy of correct type and size, with an excellent moulded head, pleasing eye colour, shape and placement, with good reach of neck into a well laid shoulder, nice level top line and tail set. His strong rear enabled him to move with drive and a looked "a picture" covering the ground.

2nd Patricia Augers' **Blue Mtn Flats Life of Riley** (Ch Mei Dan Paarma RN x Ch Blue Mtn Flats Poccahanis)

This is a excellent workman like dog, with an good top line and tail set. Pleasing head with nice small ears. He has the correct cat like feet, good strong hindquarters and he moved soundly and with drive.

3rd Cheryl Kristner & Marilyn Wilcox's **Kistryl Ice Mountain** (Ch Grousemoor Frozen In Time x Ch Comics Hello Dolly CD TD JH)

I hope this one has finished his growing. He has a pleasing head with a nice eye colour, shape and expression. Good overall balance and turn of stifle.

4th Sherry Augustine's **Blackgem Bostons Private Eye** (Ch Exotic Hilltops Black Magic CD x Ch Blackgem Topaz of the Tempe CD RA)

This boy is very typical with a nice head, but I would prefer a darker eye. He has a nice deep chest and good turn of stifle.

Puppy Sweepstakes Dogs 15 months and under 18 months

1st JoAnn Schurmann, PJ Lacette & Michele LeMole **Phoenix Angels in The Outfield** (Ch Quillquest Etched in Stone JH OA AXJ x Ch Phoenix She's Snow Angel)

This dog is of superb size, with a typical moulded head and a good reach of neck into a correct lay of shoulder, nice deep chest. He has a strong rear with a nice turn of stifle. Good tight feet.

2nd Dawn & Scott Demaux, Chris & Nikki Runyan's **Flatout Causin A Commotion** (Ch Flatcastle's Happy Hour x Ch Bertschire Cookie Monster)

This one is slightly bigger than the winner. He has a very pleasing head, with a good reach of neck into a nice lay of shoulder, good rib cage, top line and tail set. Excellent bone and feet.

3rd Jennifer Andrews' **Huntlane Joie De Vie** (Ch Flat Castle's Olympic Torch x Ch Cloud Dancer's Keep on the Faith)

This dog is of excellent overall type and was beautifully presented. He has a good head with correct eye colour, shape and expression, well defined brisket, excellent feet and bone. Nice turn of stifle.

4th Andrea & Larry Dobson's **Fall Flight's Timberdoodle** (Ch Bearstream Am Bernard NJP x Ch Rickyhills Walkin On Sunshine)

This is a nice workmanlike dog, with a good head and kind eye expression. He is correctly angulated front and rear.

Puppy Sweepstakes Bitches 6 months and under 9 months

Four very nice girls in this class, who on another day could easily change places.

1st Nicole Germain's **Matlaras Estella** (Taranbeck Last Fusilier x Matlaras Mischief Maker)

This is a very elegant bitch of correct size with quality bone. She has a beautifully moulded head with nice eye colour, shape and placement. She has a well pronounced prow, with a good top line and tail set.

2nd Lori Mihm Kunz's **Artic Sun's Cool Change** (Ch Grousemoor's Double Trouble JH x Artic Sun's Cold Duck)

This was a well presented girl, very unlucky to come up against the winner. She has a typical moulded head, with a correct lay of shoulder, shows great balance and type with excellent feet and bone.

3rd Katy Postrozny's **Rowansgaard Kinston Lacey** (Ch Rowansgaard Shirley Tradition x Ch Rowansgaard Beeny Cliff)

This is another elegant lady beautifully presented. She is nicely balanced and of correct size, with a good reach of neck and pleasing turn of stifle.

4th Valerie Bernhardt's **Affinity Free Spirit** (Ch Meadowrue Original Dance RE x Affinity Highland Fling)

This is another very nice typical bitch, with a pleasing head and good dark eye. She is well angulated front and rear and has excellent feet and quality bone.

Puppy Sweepstakes Bitches 9 months and under 12 months

1st Helen Szostak's **Grousemoor Fleetwood Mac** (Ch Grousemoor Frozen in Time JH x Ch Grousemoor Midori CDX JH RN)

This bitch is of excellent size and balance, with good quality bone. She has a pleasing head with a good reach of neck into a correct lay of shoulder, strong top line and tail set. Won the class on her movement although in the challenge she let herself down and didn't settle.

2nd Kathryn Leonhardt's **Stormwatch Thunderclapp Tegan** (Vbos The Kentuckian x Ch Rowansgaard During Wind N Rain SH NA NAJ NF)

This bitch is of correct size and balance, with good quality bone. She has a nice head with good eye colour, shape and placement. She is nicely angulated front and rear, with a great depth chest.

3rd Peg Forte & Kathryn Leonhardt's **Stormwatch Whirlwynd** (Vbos The Kentuckian x Ch Rowansgaard During Wind N Rain SH NA NAJ NF)

I struggled to split the 2nd and 3rd as they were so alike and I now see why as they are sisters! This bitch was nicely presented, with a pleasing head and a good reach of neck. She has adequate bone and good feet. I would prefer a straighter coat.

4th Susan, Samantha & Daniel Stilwell & Deb Edwards' **Breezy Hill Beachcliff Legasea** (Ch Beachcliff Alec The Shadow Baldwin CD JH OA NA x Ch Petersfield's Blue Andi)

This is a very heavily coated girl and it would be easy to overlook her, but underneath all that coat are the essentials. She has nice angulation front and rear, with quality bone.

Puppy Sweepstakes Bitches 12 months and under 15 months

1st Judy Gladson's **Swallowsflight Freya-Gaia** (Kenzed High Flyer x Swallowsflight Girlpower Gaia)

This bitch is of beautiful overall type and excellent balance and substance, with quality bone. She has a nicely moulded head. Superb lay of shoulder and good turn of stifle. Nice feet on which she moved soundly.

2nd Janet Olson & Suzanne Mathis' **Alidar Effervescing** (Ch Destiny What a Sport RN x Ch Alidar Bedeviled JH)

This is a very typical bitch, with a superbly moulded head, with good eye colour, shape and expression. Lovely level top line and tail set, with strong hindquarters.

3rd Dawn M Buttion & Martin J Archambeault & Bryce Archambeault's **Blazin's Just Drive** (Ch Flat Castle's Happy Hour x Ch Blazin's Gardes La Foi RN NAP NJP)

This young lady is a slightly bigger model, but still showing superb balance and type throughout, with quality bone and feet. She has a good head and nice eye.

4th Kurt D Anderson's **K-Mander Kalliope** (Ch Grousemoor Frozen in Time JH x Ch K'Mander Has To Be Fowlplay)

This is a very balanced workmanlike bitch of correct size and substance. She has good angulation front and rear, with a nice head and kind eye. Moved with drive.

Puppy Sweepstakes Bitches 15 months and under 18 months

1st & Best Puppy Nikki & Chris Rynyan's **Flatout Carbonated Drink** (Ch Flat Castle's Happy Hour x Ch Bertschire Cookie Monster)

The excellent work man like type of this puppy, typifying "raciness without weediness" is what helped her to win through. She has a very typical head with excellent eye colour and expression. Superb reach of neck into a nice lay of shoulder. Correct level top line and tail set, with a lovely turn of stifle. Good quality bone and excellent feet. Moved with great drive.

2nd Linda Brox & Theresa Marta's **Rush's Zen For Life** (Ch Grousemoor Frozen In Time JH x Ch Westlawn Blue Melody at Rush)

Another girl of excellent size, type and balance. Pleasing head with good eye colour and placement. Well defined brisket and strong rear, with good quality bone and correct feet.

3rd Nancy Triou & Jennifer & Jillian Andrews' **Huntlane Ode To Joy** (Ch Flat Castle's Olympic Torch x Ch Cloud Dancer's Keep on the Faith)

She is slightly bigger than the first two, but still nicely balanced. She has an excellent head, with a good reach of neck and correct lay of shoulder, pleasing level top line and set of tail. Good turn of stifle.

4th Jennifer Andrews' **Huntlane Joyful and Triumphant** (Ch Flat Castle's Olympic Torch x Ch Cloud Dancer's Keep on the Faith)

This bitch has a glorious head of correct type with kind eye expression and a good reach of neck. Correct angulation front and rear, with an excellent top line and tail set. Unfortunately her movement let her down on the day, which was a great shame.

It has been an interesting exercise typing up my scribbled notes from the two days of judging. I entered the parents of each of the exhibits as I thought this would be of interest to those not attending the show. I can see that some of my judging was quite "boring" in that I have in several cases placed litter mates, from the point of view of a judge then, at least, I have kept to some sort of type!

It has been interesting to note that there are in my opinion some quite dominant sires within the American breeding stock, producing some high quality off spring. I just hope that these are all healthy as well, then the future of the breed in America can be viewed with cautious optimism.

Thank you for the wonderful entry and the kind hospitality, warmth and generosity bestowed upon my family and I. It was fantastic to come home with so many wonderful memories, having met new and old friends. Good luck and enjoy your time with your dogs.

Sarah Whittaker

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